

Hans Schnatterpeck  
South Tirol, active in Meran, first third of the 16th century.

Angel Playing A Lute

Polychromed wood, ~~XXX~~ after 1503

<sup>+</sup> Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Severance A. Millikin  
59.340

This sculpture<sup>was</sup> originally a part of the high altar by the artist at Lana, near Meran, in the South Tirol (in present day North Italy). This work incorporated several different figural groups, including a predella. ~~XXXX~~ The Museum's Angel, which appeared with others at the top of this altar, was separated from the rest together with other pieces and comes from a Tirolean private collection. The sculptor, Hans Schnatterpeck, committed himself in 1503 to complete the altar within 8 years for a payment of 1600 Gulden.

The ~~XXX~~ Angel is an outstanding example of late Gothic style in sculpture which unfolded 100 years after the Beautiful Style seen in the Bohemian Madonna and Child (acc. no. 59.339). The Angel epitomizes a style which anticipates the Baroque while still remaining Gothic. This may be seen here in the striking use of curvilinear and spacial movement of drapery forms.

The Angel is a work of fine quality and great charm. Observe, in addition to the vivid sense of movement, the subtle configuration of the face, with the downward glance and heavy lids, and the animation of the fingers as they pluck the lute. Also to be noted is the well preserved polychromy and the original gilding.

*William D. Wixom*  
William D. Wixom

7-25-60